Lucy is a global executive with management, marketing and operations expertise. During the past 20+ years she has developed comprehensive marketing programs for a variety of blue-chip clients on three continents. Currently she provides strategic counsel and serves as an ad hoc Chief Marketing Officer to organizations seeking to enhance their brand position and drive sales. Prior to making Denver her home, Lucy served as Vice President, Asia for Octagon (a leading sports and entertainment agency and part of the Interpublic Group of Companies) where she implemented a new management and operations strategy; acted as Chief Marketing Officer for the agency; increased pre-booked revenue 150% in two years and; was responsible for quarterly presentations to the IPG Board (CMG division). She was the first foreigner to develop and teach a sports marketing class at the prestigious Peking (Beijing) University. Lucy has been a volunteer for educational initiatives in the U.S. (United Way) and China (Sun Village).

**Board Interests:** Environmental, Education, Animal Welfare

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As Program Director for both Sakura Square LLC and its parent organization, Sakura Foundation, Stacey is responsible for the development, management and implementation of projects and programming to fulfill the vision of Sakura Square and the charitable mission of Sakura Foundation. Ms. Shigaya is responsible for Sakura Foundation scholarships and grants, the Mirai Generations Leadership Program and cultural events throughout the year, the largest of which is the Annual Cherry Blossom Festival. Ms. Shigaya also contributes to the strategic planning, human resources services and management of Sakura Square LLC and its current redevelopment project. Ms. Shigaya’s varied professional experience includes market research in the automotive and cable industries, office management in the commercial real estate field and affiliate relations with a local Internet services company. She has served in a variety of positions, including co-president, of three Denver Public Schools and Littleton Public Schools PTA/PTSA/PTO boards and was a member of the 2017 Downtown Denver Leadership Program. She earned a BA in Human Development and Learning/Psychology and an MS in Counseling and Personnel Services.

**Board Interests:** Women’s Rights and Issues, LGBTQ Support and Advocacy, Human and Civil Rights, Education

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Katy is the current Government Relations Manager for the Colorado Optometric Association leading their legislative, regulatory and political efforts with a heavy emphasis on engaging members. Katy is a native Coloradan who moved to Denver in late 2017 after nearly a decade in Washington, D.C. She previously worked at The Pew Charitable Trusts, leading research and policy efforts around quality metrics and payment models for palliative and end-of-life care. Katy also worked for a national coalition, leading their communications and policy strategy around healthcare workforce development. She started her career in healthcare policy at a national trade association for home health, hospice, and palliative care. Katy is a graduate of the George Washington University’s Graduate School of Political Management and Eastern Oregon University. Katy previously served on the Oregon Student Association Board of Directors.

**Board Interests:** Health and Human Services (emphasis on aging issues), Arts, Culture & Humanities, and Historic Preservation

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Jill is passionate about sustainable development, global travel, cultural awareness, and physical therapy; combining these passions, she has directed time and energy toward capacity building for individuals living in conditions of extreme poverty so those in least developed countries can be more fully heard, appreciated, and understood. Her overseas outreach has included capacity building empowerment for women in Tanzania and medical mission work in Romania and Ghana. Closer to home, her public speaking efforts have focused on the significant relationship educating girls has in achieving the United Nations’ 2030 Sustainable Development Goals. Jill holds a BS in Physical Therapy from the University of North Dakota and an MLS in Global Affairs from the University of Denver. When not working as a physical therapist for SCL Health, serving as Outreach Coordinator for AfricAid, or advocating for adolescent girls’ education in areas of extreme poverty globally, Jill can be found hiking or biking with her husband David or reading a good book with her cat Reese.

**Board Interests:** Global Sustainable Development (emphasis on girls’ education), Fitness, and Health

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As a Director at NBH Bank, Natalie is responsible for new deal sourcing on a national level as well as relationship management with syndications bankers and loan traders. Her ten years of banking experience includes commercial lending at Whitney National Bank in Houston (now Hancock Whitney) and structured finance and leveraged lending at SMBC in New York City. She is a member of the Association for Corporate Growth and WoMAN (Women on M&A Network) in Denver. She holds a BBA in finance and accounting as well as an MBA.

**Board Interests:** Youth Development, Animal welfare, Food/Agriculture & Nutrition, Clean Water

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Laurie has a 35-year career spanning the fields of accounting, finance, risk management, and banking. Most recently, from 2007 to 2018 she served as the Director of Compliance for CoBank ACB, a $128 billion Farm Credit System institution, where she built and managed the bank’s anti-money laundering, fraud, and economic sanctions compliance programs. Laurie’s background also includes public accounting with Ernst & Young and internal auditing and financial reporting with Great-West Financial. She served as Controller for the ERIC Group (a specialty casualty insurance provider) and was Vice President of General Accounting for Life Partners Group, a holding company for four life insurance companies. In May 2018, Laurie retired from her lengthy corporate career to feed her entrepreneurial spirit and pursue her passion for fitness and wellness. Laurie earned a Bachelor of Science in Accounting from Millikin University, and holds a number of professional designations relating to life insurance, financial planning, risk management and anti-money laundering. She helped found the Colorado Chapter of the Association of Certified Anti-Money Laundering Specialists, serving as Executive Board Chair from 2016 to 2018, and Programs Director from 2015 to 2016.

**Board Interests:** Fitness/Health/Wellness, Women’s Rights & Issues, Environment, and Animal Welfare

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Brooke Smith has ten years of leadership experience working with start-ups in the arts and education spaces, and most recently concluded a five-year stint at General Assembly, an education technology company, where she was the Regional Director of Colorado. This role entailed complete ownership of the business including P&L management, sales and customer service leadership, hiring and training all staff members and ongoing business development. Brooke is now acting as an independent Operations & Strategy Consultant, working with non-profits and private companies that support the growth of entrepreneurialism and skills development. From 2016 to 2018 Brooke served on the Young Professionals Board for the Colorado Symphony. She is currently on the Women's Council at The Commons on Champa, a board dedicated to supporting the growth of female entrepreneurs. As part of her duties, she has recently built a successful year-long mentorship program for the organization.

**Board Interests:** Education, Arts / Culture & Humanities, and Youth Development

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In her role as Vice President of Finance at DaVita, Inc., Megan oversees the SG&A and capital expenditure portfolios for the U.S. Kidney Care and Strategic Business Initiative (“SBI”) units. These portfolios include the 9 divisions that operate DaVita’s 2,700 clinics across the United States, shared services teams, and several unique SBIs including DaVita Labs and VillageHealth. She also leads the Real Estate finance team for Kidney Care that manages both the health of its existing clinics as well as the new clinic pipeline. Megan joined DaVita in 2010 and prior to her current role served as Group Finance and Strategy Director for 1 of DaVita’s 9 U.S. operating divisions, covering 300 clinics and 125 hospitals. Previously, she led finance and accounting for the mountain sports division of Time, Inc. Megan holds an MBA from the University of Texas McCombs School of Business and a BA in International Business from the University of Denver. In 2014, Megan started a New Moms group at DaVita’s world headquarters in Denver, CO to help teammates navigate the unique challenges that working moms face when having young ones at home. In her time outside of work, Megan loves spending time with her husband and two sons (4 yr old and 1 yr old), running/hiking outside with her beloved 3 yr old English springer spaniel, and enjoys live music and exploring the food/restaurant scene.

**Board Interests:** Women and Children, Start-Up Ecosystem

**Contact Information:**

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Liz Och
Associate
Hogan Lovells US LLP

Liz is an associate in the Denver office of Hogan Lovells, a global law firm. Liz combines her legal experience with her background in environmental policy and dispute resolution to bring creative, collaborative solutions to conflicts over natural resources, environmental remediation, and energy production. Clients value Liz’s leadership, team-mindedness, and project-management skills. She has both a personal and professional interest in environmental and conservation organizations. Liz is also passionate about helping others. She has been actively involved in the Legal Aid Foundation of Colorado’s fundraising efforts for the past four years, and is currently a Co-Chair of the organization’s Associate Advisory Board. Liz has a B.A. in Environmental Sciences from Northwestern University, an M.S. in Natural Resources from the University of Michigan, and a J.D. from the University of Michigan Law School.

Board Interests: Environmental or Conservation, Community Service, Arts & Culture

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Nicole Collette Carner
Principal
AVL Growth Partners

Nicole Carner is an experienced finance and operations executive, supporting and leading companies on a trajectory of growth, profitability and change. In her current role as a fractional CFO, she partners with founders and executives of start-ups to build their companies – and has a proven record of success in e-commerce, consumer goods and food companies, driving business results while building strong team relationships. Prior to this, Nicole was the Senior Director of Finance at one of the most rapidly growing e-commerce companies, The RealReal, the leader in online luxury resale, completing multiple funding rounds, totaling $80M. She has extensive experience in equity/debt financings, strategic planning, revenue/pricing optimization, fundraising, sales operations and new product launches. Nicole holds an MBA from California State University Sacramento and a BS in International Management and Finance from California Polytechnic State University San Luis Obispo. In her free time, she enjoys volunteering, fitness, interior design and travel.

Board Interests: Children, Youth Development, Start-Ups/Entrepreneurship

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Jo Lynne has long worked for an equal partnership of women and men of all races around the world. She is the Chair of Boardbound by Women’s Leadership Foundation whose mission is to open more board seats for women in Colorado and beyond. Jo Lynne has executive experience as an officer of a Fortune 100 company, general management profit and loss experience and marketing expertise. She also chaired the Board of a Home Health company she helped start, grow and successfully sold in 2011. From 2010-17, she was on the Board of Directors of Population Connection where she was Vice Chair from 2014-17. From 2013-15, Jo Lynne was the Chairperson of Beyond our Borders, a group-advised fund of The Women's Foundation of Colorado. Jo Lynne has MBA from University of Colorado at Denver with an emphasis in Marketing and a B.A. degree from Texas Wesleyan University with an emphasis in English and Math. She lives in Denver, Colorado and grew up on her family’s ranch in Texas that was homesteaded over 175 years ago.  

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Jennifer Malpiede  
Business Diversity Outreach Coordinator  
Denver Public Schools  

I am an innovative problem solver with a diversified skill set, providing me with a unique ability to assess and address obstacles in a variety of situations. My dynamic, charismatic and detail-oriented personality has allowed me to work on numerous projects in a vast array of fields. I excel in high-pressure situations and will do what it takes to deliver a top of the line product at the end of the day.  

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